THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P. V. NARRASIMHA RAO): (a) The following components have been developed at the National Aeronautical Laboratory (NAL), Bangalore, utilising carbon fibre composite material:

- Rudder for Mig-21 aircraft

- Rudder for Do-228 aircraft

An advanced composite Technology Facility has also been set up at NAL.

(b) NAL has import Carbon Fibre from France at an estimated cost of around Rs. 25 lacs.

(c) NAL has plants to develop (i) Rudder for Light Combat Aircraft, (ii) Fin for Light Combat Aircraft utilising carbon fibre composite material.

National Physical Laboratory (NAL), another establishment of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), has plans to develop High Performance Carbon Fibres of Varying Strenght and Strain.

Mining by Private Sector

4605. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI M. V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Coal Nationalisation Act to assign the mining task to private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) Coal mining is at present reserved for Public Sector with the exceptions of Captive mining and consumption by Iron and Steel Industry and mining in small isolated pockets not amenable to economic development and not requiring rail transport.

No decision has been taken to assign mining task to private sector.

Supply of Beneficiated Coal

4606. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI M. V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have directed all new coal mines to supply beneficiated coal in view of evironmental consideration;

(b) the details of the new coal mines identified by the Government;

(c) whether such type of coal is proposed to be supplied to the Thermal Power Station; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d). An Expert Committee set up by the Government had recommended use of beneficiated coal in new thermal power station located more than 1000 Kms. away from the coalfields. This Committee had opined that use of beneficiated coal by such distant power station would be more benefi-